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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

BEGONIA PLANT NAMED 'NADINE'

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION

Begonia elatior

VARIETAL DENOMINATION

'Nadine'

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of *Begonia elatior* known by the varietal name 'Nadine'. The new variety was discovered in a planned breeding program as a single plant in a group of plants of the parent cultivar in Amstelveen, Netherlands, in 1998. The new variety is a mutation of 'Britt' (unpatented). The new variety differs from its parent through its yellow/pale yellow flower color and a similar variety, 'Rhianne' (unpatented) in its flower color and peduncle color as follows:

	Rhianne	Nadine
Middle of lower side, outer tepal	Orange Group 25D	Yellow-Orange Group 18B
Middle of lower side, inner tepal	Orange Group 24D	Yellow-Orange Group 21D
Peduncle	Reddish	Greenish

The new variety was first asexually reproduced by cuttings in Aalsmeer, The Netherlands in February of 1998. The new variety has been trial and field tested and has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics and remain true to type through successive propagations.

The new variety, when grown in a glass greenhouse has a response time for rooting from a terminal cutting of 14 days.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The accompanying photographic drawing illustrates the new variety, with the color being as nearly true as is possible with color illustrations of this type.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following detailed description sets forth the characteristics of the new cultivar. The data which defines these characteristics were collected by asexual reproductions by cuttings grown to 12 weeks in a 13 cm diameter pot in a controlled

greenhouse environment. Color references are primarily to the R.H.S. Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society of London.

PLANT

[Classification:

Botanical: *Begonia Elatior*.

Commercial: Begonia.]

Form: Upright.

Size: [About 40 cm tall from] From top of media surface, 19-20 cm to top of leaves and 22-23 cm to top of flowers; 30 cm wide in 15 cm container 10 weeks after planting, with pinching.

Growth: Moderate.

Time to initiate roots: About 14 days at 22°C.

Time to develop roots: About 18 days at 22°C.

Rooting [habit] description: Fine, fibrous, and well-branched.

Lateral Branches:

Appearance/aspect: Cylindrical; upright to somewhat outwardly angled.

Strength: Very good.

Length: About 19 cm.

Diameter: About 1 cm.

Internode length: About 3.8 cm.

Texture: Mostly smooth with sparse small white hairs; fleshy.

Color: Greyed-Red Group 180B.

Leaves:

Arrangement: Alternate.

Shape: Rounded with acute apex and cordate base with overlap.

Size: 14 cm wide; 15 cm long.

Quantity: About 7 per lateral branch.

Stipules: 2 per leaf sized 5 mm x 5 mm.

Margin: Bi-crenate.

Texture: Smooth; shiny and leathery.

Color:

Upper surface: Green Group 136A.

Lower surface: Green Group 137C.

Venation: Palmate; [light green] Green Group 136B.

Petiole: About 4.5 cm long; 5 mm in diameter; Greyed-Red Group 180B.

FLOWERS

Stipules:

Shape: Asymmetrically pointed with acute apex and straight base.

Margin: Entire.

Color: Greyed-Red Group 180B on upper and lower surfaces.

Habit: Continuous flowering; compound raceme.

[Size: 3.5 mm in diameter; 1 cm deep.]

Cyme: 11-12 cm diameter with 6 cm diameter flowers; 7-8 flowers per cyme and 40 flowers per plant; flat to cup shaped.

Tepals:

Arrangement: Double; 14-20 tepals per flower.

Shape: Rounded obovate apex; obtuse base.

Size: 2.5 cm long; 3.5 cm wide.

Margin: Entire.

Color:

Upper surface:

Upper tepals:

Margin upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 16C.

Middle upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 19C.

Inner tepals:

Margin upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 16A.

Middle upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 21B.

Lower surface: Yellow-Orange Group 18B on middle of outer tepal.

Yellow-Orange Group 21D on middle of inner tepal.

Fragrance: None.

Flower buds: About 1.8 cm long (in autumn); about 1.3 cm wide; oval;
Yellow-Orange Group 18B.

Peduncles:

Angle: Mostly erect.
Strength: Strong but flexible.
Length: About 3.5-4 cm.
Color: Yellow-Green Group 146B.

Pedicels:

Angle: About 30 to 45° from vertical.
Strength: Strong but flexible.
Length: About 1 cm.
Color: Yellow-Green Group 146B.

Bracts:

Arrangement: Two; opposite.
Shape: Very broadly cordate; acute apex.
Margin: Entire.
Color: [Light green] Greyed-Red Group 180B on upper and lower surfaces.

[Color:

Upper surface:

Outer petals:

Margin upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 16C
Middle upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 19C

Inner petals:

Margin upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 16A.
Middle upper side: Yellow-Orange Group 21B.

Lower surface: Yellow-Orange Group 18B deepening to
Yellow-Orange Group 21D.]

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Stamens: None observed.

Pistils: None observed.

Postproduction longevity:

Flowers: 3-4 weeks on the plant.

Plants: 7-8 weeks.

Disease resistance: Mildew tolerant.

Seed Production: Seed production has not been observed as reproductive organs are not formed.